

A NEW ATELEUTE FROM THE UNITED STATES  
(HYMENOPTERA, ICHNEUMONIDAE)

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The genus *Ateleute* Foerster is represented by many species in the warmer parts of the Old World, where it has been reared several times from Psychidae. It has not yet been reported from the Western Hemisphere. Mr. Peter Hättenschwiler, of Uster, Switzerland, on a visit to the United States in 1963, reared a specimen of this genus at Greenville, South Carolina from a psychid, along with some other parasites of Psychidae from several localities in the Carolinas.

Although *Ateleute* has not been reported previously from America, Mr. Hättenschwiler's is not the first specimen known. Some years ago, I saw two male specimens in the U. S. National Museum that were collected in south central United States. In 1965, Mr. John Schmid found a male of the genus among Malaise trap material from Golden Pond, Kentucky, collected by Dr. Sam Breeland. These three males may be the same species as the female described below, but males of *Ateleute* are difficult to associate with their females, as there is strong sexual dimorphism. The genus occurs also in South America. I have seen three undescribed species from Peru.

*Ateleute* is an isolated genus of the subfamily Gelinae. By "key characters" it belongs in the tribe Mesostenini, but the genus may be a derivative of the Chirotica group of genera in the Gelini, and thus may have independently developed mesostenine characters. For the present, I prefer to place it in the Mesostenini. It should be in a subtribe by itself: the Ateleutina.

The more distinctive characters of *Ateleute* are: Postpectal carina complete, not interrupted in front of each middle coxa; mesopleural fovea absent; areolet moderately large, about twice as wide as high, the second intercubitus weak or absent; second recurrent vein vertical, with one bulla; tergite 1 often longitudinally striate, its spiracle at the midlength; propodeum long, its apical transverse carina usually distinct, its basal transverse carina absent or indistinct, without distinct longitudinal carinae.

*Ateleute carolina*, n. sp.

*Male*: Unknown.

*Female*: Front wing 3.7 mm. long; postero-median part of mesoscutum with longitudinal wrinkles; apical transverse carina of propodeum distinct, the basal carina obsolete; propodeum in front of apical transverse carina mat and with weak transverse wrinkling; second intercubitus faint; tergite 1 weakly mat, medially subpolished, with a median longitudinal impression, without any longitudinal striae; tergite 2 weakly mat, without punctures or wrinkles; ovipositor sheath 0.6 as long as front wing.

Fulvous, with the head black. Clypeus, palpi, and propleurum not visible because glued next to card mount; mandible whitish; antenna black, the front half of scape ferruginous, apical 0.3 of flagellar segment 5, all of flagellar segments 6-9, and basal 0.6 of flagellar segment 10 white; pronotum fuscous, its front part, lower part, and hind corner white; mesonotum and metanotum black, the lateral lobe of mesoscutum margined with white mesally and anterolaterally, the median lobe of mesoscutum broadly margined with white anterolaterally; apex of scutellum white; subtegular ridge whitish; mesopleurum with a fuscous area beneath front wing; legs pale fulvous, their fifth tarsal segments infusate.

Distinctive characters of this species are the lack of longitudinal striae on tergite 1, and the color pattern of the thorax.

Type ♀, Greenville, South Carolina, emerged from case of *Astala confederata* (Psychidae), Feb. 23, 1963, Peter Hättenschwiler (Townes).

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#### NEW SYNONYMY IN *PLERONEURA* KONOW

(HYMENOPTERA: XYELIDAE)

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Ross (1932) revised the North American *Pleroneura* Konow and included 7 species. He stated that the species had been described from very few specimens and that larger series would be necessary in order to determine how stable the characters are on which these species were based. In recent years, several large series of *Pleroneura* have been collected in the East and West, and it is now possible to evaluate some of the characters which were previously used for species separation.

*P. brunneicornis* Rohwer and *P. borealis* Felt were both described from New York State and are the only described eastern forms. Ross separated these species from the western *Pleroneura* by the pale posterior margin of the pronotum and pale femora, then distinguished between them by veins r-m and m-cu of the fore wing being interstitial or not. In series of a species of *Pleroneura* collected in Maine, the position of veins r-m and m-cu of the fore wing was found to be variable; consequently, I consider these two species to be the same.

The western species of the group, in which the body is primarily black, were separated by the dark or light coloration of the tibiae, femora, and clypeus. Several series of a species of *Pleroneura* which were collected in Oregon and California show a high degree of color variation within and between sexes. In some instances, the associated males and females will key to different species in Ross' key. Therefore,